Economic Instability in Minnesota

491,782 Minnesotans (including 140,103 children under age 18) live in households that are below the federal poverty threshold.*  
* $21,720 for a family of three in 2020.

"The income gap is increasing in our area and children are the ones who suffer the most and bear the long-term effect of living in low-income households."
~ Cynthia Huse, Garfield Lutheran Church, Madison

Poverty rates for Minnesotans of color are 3-4 times greater than those of white Minnesotans.

Poverty rates for Minnesotans with disabilities are 2+ times greater than those of Minnesotans without a disability.

- Cottonwood County

Population: 11,196
Households in Poverty: 10.8% (up from 9.6% in 2000)
Children K-12 Receiving Free/Reduced Lunch: 48.9%
Number of Children in Child Care Assistance Program: 31
Cost-burdened* Renter Households: 33%
Severely Cost-burdened* Renter Households: 17%

*Cost-burdened households pay more than 30% of income for housing. Severely cost-burdened households pay more than 50%.

"I therefore command you, 'Open your hand to the poor and needy neighbor in your land'."
~ Deuteronomy 15:11

Population and Poverty Data from the US Census Bureau (2019)
Free and Reduced Lunch Data from the Minnesota Department of Health (2017-18 school year)
CCAP data from the Minnesota Department of Human Services (February 2020)
Housing Data from US Census, American Community Survey (2017); Minnesota Housing Partnership State of the State's Housing Report (2019)